Examiner:

PATENT

Docket No. 256.00010120

J.A. Goldberg

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Stefan M. Pulst Group Art Unit: 1634

Confirmation No.: 8733

08/981,998

For:

Serial No.:

NUCLEIC ACID ENCODING SPINOCEREBELLAR ATAXIA-2 AND

PRODUCTS RELATED THERETO

COMMUNICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Attn: Examiner J. A. Goldberg Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Examiner Goldberg:

An Office Communication was issued by the Patent and Trademark Office on March 24, 2003, which notified Applicant that all claims in the subject patent application were allowed, and that ex parte prosecution was suspended due to a potential interference.

The Office Communication did not, however, state how long the suspension is expected to last. The Office is respectfully requested to clarify the length of the suspension on the record.

Respectfully submitted for

Stefan M. Pulst

By

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR §1.8:

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile in accordance with 37 CFR §1.6(d) to the Patent and Trademark Office, addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Attn: Examiner J.A. Goldberg, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 17th day of April, 2003, at 9:15 am. (Central Time).